

Litchfield Prevention Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Bantam Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road, Bantam and on Zoom

September 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Gary Waugh, Chair, Maria Ziello, Co-Vice Chair, Priscilla Jeffery, Co-Vice Chair, Jill Johnson, Treasurer, Jaime Makuc, Secretary (on Zoom), Matt Dyer (on Zoom), (arrived at 7:22: Jacqueline Tiul)

Others Present: Emma Johnson-Hollis of WCC

Members Absent: Colleen Kinkade

Gary Waugh called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

School Liaison Report: None

Law Enforcement Liaison Report: None

Approval of Minutes from 6/13/23 and 8/8/23: The minutes for the previous two meetings were adopted as submitted by unanimous consent.

Treasurer Report: Jill reported that we had a balance of \$15,786.16 at the end of July and have since received donations from the Litchfield Public Schools and Litchfield Health and Wellness for a total of \$3750, and have issued checks for \$5000 to Scarlett Lewis' foundation, \$176 for our PO Box, \$66 for postage, and \$72.95 for printing, leaving us with approximately \$13,000.

Correspondence: Will be addressed with the relevant agenda items.

Old Business:

- **Berson Bench dedication event on September 18th at 7:00 pm –**

36 people have responded. It was agreed that we should expect 60. Speakers who have agreed to speak are Chris Leone, Julie Haggard, Alison and Emma from the Coalition, Denise Raap, and Matt Dyer. Invited but not yet responded: Mike Pascento. Other possible speakers would be Kelly Garden, Jill Johnson, someone from the Susan B. Anthony Project, and someone from Greenwoods. Jackie is coordinating with Meraki who will provide coffee, tea, and dessert for no more than \$500.

- **Scarlett Lewis event on October 6 –**

Gary reported on the media platforms that will publicize the event. We can boost a Facebook post to good effect, and possibly do a radio spot on WZBG. It was agreed that we should print 100 copies of the flyer in 11x17 format and distribute them to local merchants and bulletin boards around the area.

- **Matt Bellace Event on October 16 –**

He will do three presentations: Litchfield Schools and Wamogo during the day, and a parents' event in the evening. It is close to National Red Ribbon Week. Jackie and Priscilla will attend the daytime events and introduce the speaker.

- **Scarecrow Contest October 13 –**

Jaime has saved the materials from last year. She plans to make a new head. We can include publicity about the Bellace event and a QR code to our website. Emma suggested collecting slips of paper on which participants write what they are hopeful about, what they love, and how they take care of themselves, in a jack-o-lantern, or a doctor's black bag. Gary will email the forms from the Historical Society to Jaime. A motion made by Jill Johnson and seconded by Jackie Tiul to make a \$100 donation to the Litchfield Historical Society for our participation in the event passed unanimously.

- **Suicide Awareness Prevention Walk on October 28 –**

The walk begins at 11 a.m. Several members are planning to participate. We can walk as a team.

- **Problem Gambling Adult Presentation –**

This is planned for November at the Community Center.

- **Update on Website Development –**

Harmony will do our updates for an hourly rate. Priscilla will work with her. Members are encouraged to send ideas and suggestions to Priscilla. One idea is to reprint relevant articles from the school newsletters. Linking the webpage, Instagram and Facebook can be done.

New Business:

- **Membership update –**

Priscilla is now a regular member. Maria is still an alternate. Ann Combs will talk to Colleen Kinkade about resigning so we can fill her seat. There are now three alternate seat vacancies.

- **Progress towards a Student Run Group –**

There was discussion about seeing if we can get Lisa Heuschkel and Mike Pascento on board. The possibility of getting students to participate in the Suicide Prevention Walk was discussed.

- **Progress on the WCC Grant Application –**

Jill will work with Emma to get this done by September 30.

- **Stacked Deck gambling curriculum –**

Jill's school is implementing the Stacked Deck curriculum this year. Judy Palmer at EdAdvance is a good resource. The Stacked Deck fits well into the Health curriculum.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. was seconded and passed unanimously.